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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04853.0082

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Akihiko MARUYAMA et al.) Group Art Unit: 1634
Application No.: 09/979,558) Examiner: Diana B. Johansen
Int'l Filing Date: May 25, 2000)
§ 371 Requirements Satisfied Date: March 18, 2002)
For: DNA, DNA PROBES, AND METHODS FOR)
DETECTING NOVEL PSYCHROTROPHIC)
BACTERIUM (as amended))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Applicants now reply to the Office Action mailed September 9, 2003. The period for reply has been extended by three months to March 9, 2004, by the Petition for Three Month Extension of Time filed concurrently herewith. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amended specification, amended claims, and remarks herein.

Amendments to the Specification are noted on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.